





NO FREE TOLLS IN CANAL ZUNE WANTED

American Employes in Zone Believe That Free Passage for American Ships Would Reduce Their Rev.

By DAVID M. CHURCH (STAFF CORRESPONDENT I. N. SERVICE) BALBOA, Canal Zone, Dec. 24.—The Americans in the Panama Canal Zone

for American ships.

When President-elect Harding re-cently paid a visit to the Canal Zone he was greeted with open-hearted velcome, but was frankly told by all those whose opinion he sought that the people of the Zone do not endorse his views with regard to free tolls for American ships passing through the Canal. This proposition to free toils is also shared by the people of the Republic of Panama.

The opposition to free tolls for the American ships is a personal matter with every resident of the Canal Zone, the great majority of whom are employes on the Canal. The people of the Zone argue that free tolls for American ships must reduce the revenues of the Canal, and that the cost of maintenance cannot be reduced, therefore free tolls will mean larger appropriations by the Congress. These people feel that larger apropriations will mean that Congress will seek economy in the administration and operation of the Canal and they fear that the first act of economy will be a reduction of working forces throwing many people out of employment, and there are few of the employes here who are anxious to leave the Zone, which has become home to

Another reason for opposition to free tolls for American ships is the ress of business in Panama. The Canal has been responsible for a great boom in business in Panama, many Americans entering the fields of commerce to meet with success. Almost every ship passing through the Canal leaves some money in one or another port. There is a very prevaient feeling that if foreign ships are charged tolls for Canal passage while American ships are not charged that there will be many of the foreign ships which will avoid passage through the Canal seeking some other course, and thus causing the business of Panama to suffer.

The residents of the Zone have no vote. Most of them have friends and relatives back in the States, however who are voters and they are already asking these voters to represent their desires and to express their opposition to free tolls for American ships through the Panama Canal.

FINDS \$800 PEARL WEDGED BETWEEN

ROCKFORD. III., Dec. 24.—A pure white toe on the muddy foot of a hog attracted the attention of Mr. Morris Johnson, a farmer, living near here. Upon a closer examination, he found that the white object was not a toe but a perfect pearl and that it was lodged between two toes. He sold the pearl for \$800.

Johnson had been feeding his hogs with mussel meat secured from mussel seekers, who were collecting the bivalves in the Rock River to sell the shells to button manufacturers.

Popularity of fresh water pearls has grown steadily in recent years. Wisconsin claims the honor of being the first State to develop a substantial market for these gems, many of which have a rich fustre and are of delicate shades of pink and white. While Oriental pearls are the finest, the Wisconsin and Illinois fresh water pearls are in big demand.

Pearl fishing is the most lucrative of trades in the Orient. In Wisconsin and Illinois it also has made many a pearl fisher rich, for not only are valuable pearls found frequently, but the shells find a ready market in the Mississippi River button factories.

Protest Cutting Down Giant Sycamore Tree

(INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The American Forestry Association today called upon the people of Gibson County. Ill., to file with the association protests against cutting down a glant sycamore tree near Mt. Carmel, Ill. The association has been asked both by Richard Lieber of the Department of Conservation of Indiana, and Dr. Robert Ridgway, an ornithologist of Olney, Ill., to take up the fight of the citizens of the two States to save the tree. It is on the ground surveyed for a levee along the Wabash River, but there is no need of destroying this tree, the association says. The tree is the last of twelve glants that were all within a half mile of each other at one time. This tree is about 150 feet high and has a circumference of about twenty-five feet.

Christian Scientists

Approve Ruling
[INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE]
BOSTON, Dec. 24.—Attorney-General J. Weston Allen has received a document containing the signatures of 40,-900 Christian Scientists expressing the belief that the State official has taken the right position in taking part in the controversy between members of that church and now before the courts for settlement. At a recent court hearing the statement was made by one of the attorneys that the action of the Attorney-General had not the support of the members of the church.

What's in a Name? Diner-Here, what d'you call this? Beef or mutton? Waitress-Carn't yer tell the difference?

Diner-No. Waitress-Then why worry about it?

Practical Dustcap Instead of the usual dustcap cut a three-cornered piece of good quality





